

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-8 (Canceled).

Claim 9 (New): A vibration-absorbing tube comprising:

a bellows composed of a thin metal and having troughs and ridges;

a fiber braid reinforcement covering the bellows and having a braided angle of 30° to 50°; and

a buffer material covering the outer face of the bellows from the bottom of the troughs to a height that is 0.5 to 2.0 times the height of ridges.

Claim 10 (New): The vibration-absorbing tube according to claim 9, wherein gaps in the fiber braid reinforcement are impregnated with a curable resin or rubber composition.

Claim 11 (New): The vibration-absorbing tube according to claim 10, wherein the resin composition comprises at least one resin selected from the group consisting of urea resins, melamine resins, phenol resins, epoxy resins, vinyl acetate resins, cyanoacrylate resins, polyurethane resins, maleic acid resins, isocyanate resins, and acrylic resins.

Claim 12 (New): The vibration-absorbing tube according to claim 10, wherein the rubber composition comprises at least one rubber selected from the group consisting of chlorinated rubbers, acrylic rubbers, hydrogenated nitrile rubbers, epichlorohydrin rubbers, butyl rubbers, chlorosulfonated polyethylene rubbers, and chlorinated polyethylene rubbers.

Claim 13 (New): The vibration-absorbing tube according to claim 9 further comprising at least one additional fiber braid reinforcement at the outside of the fiber braid reinforcement.

Claim 14 (New): The vibration-absorbing tube according to claim 9, wherein the fibers constituting the fiber braid reinforcement and the additional fiber braid reinforcement are selected from the group consisting of acrylic fibers, novoloid fibers, carbon fibers, polyester fibers, vinylon fibers, silk, nylon fibers, polyamide fibers, polyparaphenylene benzobisoxazole fibers, and aramid fibers.

Claim 15 (New): The vibration-absorbing tube according to claim 9, wherein the cross section of the bellows has a sequence of S2-shapes or U-shapes.

Claim 16 (New): The vibration-absorbing tube according to claim 14, wherein the cross section of the bellows has a sequence of S2-shapes or U-shapes.

Claim 17 (New): The vibration-absorbing tube according to claim 9, wherein the buffer material is a rubber composition comprising at least one rubber selected from the group consisting of polyisobutylene, acrylic rubbers, hydrogenated nitrile rubbers, epichlorohydrin rubbers, butyl rubbers, chlorosulfonated polyethylene rubbers, and chlorinated polyethylene rubbers.

Claim 18 (New): The vibration-absorbing tube according to claim 14, wherein the buffer material is a rubber composition comprising at least one rubber selected from the group consisting of polyisobutylene, acrylic rubbers, hydrogenated nitrile rubbers,

epichlorohydrin rubbers, butyl rubbers, chlorosulfonated polyethylene rubbers, and chlorinated polyethylene rubbers.

Claim 19 (New): The vibration-absorbing tube according to claim 15, wherein the buffer material is a rubber composition comprising at least one rubber selected from the group consisting of polyisobutylene, acrylic rubbers, hydrogenated nitrile rubbers, epichlorohydrin rubbers, butyl rubbers, chlorosulfonated polyethylene rubbers, and chlorinated polyethylene rubbers.

Claim 20 (New): The vibration-absorbing tube according to claim 16, wherein the buffer material is a rubber composition comprising at least one rubber selected from the group consisting of polyisobutylene, acrylic rubbers, hydrogenated nitrile rubbers, epichlorohydrin rubbers, butyl rubbers, chlorosulfonated polyethylene rubbers, and chlorinated polyethylene rubbers.

Claim 21 (New): The vibration-absorbing tube according to claim 9, wherein the vibration-absorbing tube is partially disposed in piping for a carbon dioxide refrigerant system, hydrogen gas, liquefied petroleum gas, chlorofluorocarbon refrigerant, or liquefied natural gas.

Claim 22 (New): The vibration-absorbing tube according to claim 14, wherein the vibration-absorbing tube is partially disposed in piping for a carbon dioxide refrigerant system, hydrogen gas, liquefied petroleum gas, chlorofluorocarbon refrigerant, or liquefied natural gas.

Claim 23 (New): The vibration-absorbing tube according to claim 15, wherein the vibration-absorbing tube is partially disposed in piping for a carbon dioxide refrigerant system, hydrogen gas, liquefied petroleum gas, chlorofluorocarbon refrigerant, or liquefied natural gas.

Claim 24 (New): The vibration-absorbing tube according to claim 16, wherein the vibration-absorbing tube is partially disposed in piping for a carbon dioxide refrigerant system, hydrogen gas, liquefied petroleum gas, chlorofluorocarbon refrigerant, or liquefied natural gas.

Claim 25 (New): The vibration-absorbing tube according to claim 17, wherein the vibration-absorbing tube is partially disposed in piping for a carbon dioxide refrigerant system, hydrogen gas, liquefied petroleum gas, chlorofluorocarbon refrigerant, or liquefied natural gas.

Claim 26 (New): The vibration-absorbing tube according to claim 18, wherein the vibration-absorbing tube is partially disposed in piping for a carbon dioxide refrigerant system, hydrogen gas, liquefied petroleum gas, chlorofluorocarbon refrigerant, or liquefied natural gas.

Claim 27 (New): The vibration-absorbing tube according to claim 19, wherein the vibration-absorbing tube is partially disposed in piping for a carbon dioxide refrigerant system, hydrogen gas, liquefied petroleum gas, chlorofluorocarbon refrigerant, or liquefied natural gas.

Claim 28 (New): The vibration-absorbing tube according to claim 20, wherein the vibration-absorbing tube is partially disposed in piping for a carbon dioxide refrigerant system, hydrogen gas, liquefied petroleum gas, chlorofluorocarbon refrigerant, or liquefied natural gas.